

## GOOD RATION FOR FATTENING

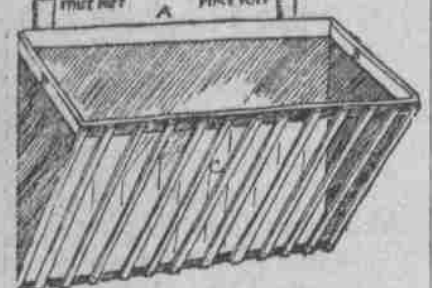
Problem is Important One and of Various Feeds Corn is Best Single Grain to Be Fed.

The question of ration for sheep at this time of the year is an important one. All of the various farm grains have been used with more or less success. Corn easily heads the list as the best single grain for fattening lambs. It is especially desirable because it causes the lambs to put on fat rapidly and does not stimulate too much growth as in the case with many forms of concentrated feeds. Barley has also been used to very good advantage. It is about on a par with corn fed from the standpoint of rapidity and economy or gains, but lacks same in palatability. Wheat and wheat screenings have both been used to fatten lambs. The feed has too much tendency to cause the lambs to grow rather than fatten. When combined with an equal amount of corn the lambs put on fat much more rapidly. Oats is a useful feed, but, like wheat, is more liable to induce growth than fattening. It should be mixed with corn for best results. Oatmeal, cottage meal and gluten feed have all been used in conjunction with corn rations to good advantage. Not more than one-half pound of either oatmeal or cottage meal should be fed a lamb weighing from 50 to 90 pounds. While wheat bran itself is not helpful in putting on fat, it is one of the best feeding stuffs available to use in conjunction with corn or other feeds in getting lambs on full feed. It furnishes bulk, thus prevents the greedy ones from getting too much concentrates and also acts as a regulator of the digestive system.

## ALFALFA MANGER FOR SWINE

Hay Should Be From the First or Second Crop, and Kept in Dry Place—Feeding Rack is Shown.

I have been feeding a quart of Kaffir per day each to some shoats, and all the alfalfa they would eat. They are doing well on it and growing fast. When alfalfa hay is fed to hogs it should be from the first or second crop, and it must be kept in a dry place, for if allowed to mold, the hogs will not eat it. For feeding the hay I use a rack made of one by four-inch stuff, as shown in the diagram. The trough is



Hay Manger for Hogs.

4 feet high and may be made as long as desired, writes J. S. Howard in the Farmer's Mail and Breeze. A trough four inches deep and a foot wide should be placed below the rack to keep the hogs from wasting the leaves. The slats are four inches apart so the hogs can pull the hay out, but they can't get their heads through.

## Handling Lambs.

There is a vast difference in handling lambs intended for breeding and for the market. The first should be matured slowly in order to produce good bone and stability, but the latter should be forced to put on fat as quickly as possible, as the weight is the only thing that counts.

## LIVE STOCK NOTES

Don't give the sow too much bedding.

Never feed a horse when it is very warm.

Clipping a horse's legs is not a good practice.

Exercise sweating in a horse indicates weakness.

You cannot begin to feed and train a colt too early.

There is a growing demand for bacon—good bacon.

Kindness beats gruffness in getting work out of horses.

Drive a colt the first time with a fast walking horse.

Silage can be fed to sheep with satisfactory results.

Buckwheat straw is not a suitable bedding material for pigs.

It is important that some grain be fed pigs intended for the market.

Treat the herd boar with kindness and also with considerable caution.

Stock raising is the best insurance against an impoverished agriculture.

Handling colts from the start obviates breaking and substitutes training.

The use of silage for sheep feeding purposes has been tried out to a limited extent.

For horses doing a considerable amount of road work there is no grain equal to oats.

So far as cooking feed for cows or any kind of live stock, only in rare instances is it profitable.

The localities where some sort of live stock may not be profitably maintained are few and far between.

For winter feed or summer feed there is no cheaper or better balanced ration for horses, cattle, sheep and swine than silage.

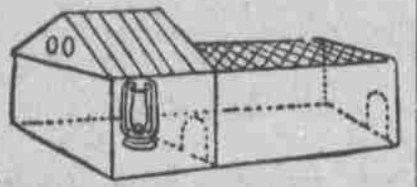
Mules of all sizes find a ready market. The mule is less subject to disease than the horse, easier cured when sick and has a longer period of service.

## BROODER FOR LITTLE CHICKS

Illustration and Directions Given for Constructing Comfortable Place for Youngsters.

This wireless brooder will accommodate 25 to 50 chicks, according to the weather. If the hover is removed it makes an excellent brood coop for hen and chicks. Make the bottom of brooder 2 feet 8 inches by 1 foot 10 inches of boards, nailed on 2 by 2-inch scantlings. For the upper part use 2 by 2-inch posts for the uprights, those in front 17 inches long, and the rear 11 inches. Make the coop 2 feet 10 inches long, 2 feet wide, 18 inches high in front and 12 inches at the back, writes Arthur S. Wenger of Dayton, Va., in the Missouri Valley Farmer. This will allow the coop to set down over the floor, the posts resting upon the floor boards. Make two openings in front, one 8 by 8 inches, the other 12 by 20. For the smaller opening make a sliding door, and cover the other with fine mesh wire netting. Make a frame and cover with muslin to slide over this netting during cold or stormy weather. For the roof take two pieces of 3/4-inch board 2 inches wide and 3 feet long, and three pieces of the same dimension 2 feet 2 inches long. Notch the long pieces at end and center to 1 inch wide, so the crosspieces can be nailed in—to make a flat frame. Cover this frame with three-ply roofing stretched tight and nailed around edge and through center. Hinge the cover to back of coop and put a small hook in front to hold it shut.

For the hover make a box 18 inches square and 8 inches high with a hole 4 inches square in one side for chicks to go in and out. Put in a bottom but no top. Make a wooden frame to fit rather loosely in this box and tack



Explanatory Sketch.

muslin on one side of frame with a pivot in each corner so it will sag about 2 inches. Put a nail in each corner of box 4 inches from bottom for frame to rest upon. Have about 1 inch of fine hay chaff in bottom of box. Put in chicks and cover top of muslin with burlap sacks or any soft material. In warm weather they will need very little cover.

## BEDBUGS IN CHICKEN HOUSE

Roots and Nests Should Be Removed From Building and Whitewash Spray Thoroughly Applied.

Many poultry houses are infested with bed bugs and it is not an easy matter to dislodge them.

Some people say that turning the sheep into the poultry houses will induce the bugs to attack the sheep where they will be lost in the wool, but this is a poor remedy.

Remove all the roots and nests from the house and spray with boiling hot whitewash to which has been added a pint of turpentine to a pailful.

Another good remedy is to burn the interior of the house with taroline mixture which can be bought at any drug store. Another effective remedy is half a pint each of turpentine, ammonia and kerosene to which add about four ounces of gum camphor. If more is needed double the quantity. Apply with a brush.

The nests should be burned out over a blazing fire and the roots should also be held over the fire and all should be thoroughly whitewashed and painted before putting them back.

## Insect Powder for Fowls.

Here is a receipt for an insect powder and it can be made a great deal cheaper than it can be bought.

Take one pint of crude carbolic acid and three pints of gasoline. Mix in an earthen crock or granite ware dish. Sprinkle in plaster of Paris and thoroughly stir so that every particle of it will be wet. Use enough plaster of Paris to absorb all the liquid. Spread out on a paper for extra gasoline to evaporate, then run through a sieve and the powder is ready for use.

## POULTRY NOTES

Don't raise scrub chickens.

Don't use too heavy a cock bird with your females.

Poultry constitutes a very good minor source of farm profit.

Early turkeys are what pay and these can only be had from early laid eggs.

Condiments that stimulate egg production are very much like anything that stimulates a human being.

Some tell the sex of the guinea fowl by its wattles. Those of the male are double the size of the female.

A chicken's stomach is not made of iron, and the same diet day after day harms them as much as it does a human.

Running the incubator is like most other things, we get results largely in proportion to the work we do ourselves.

Ventilation in the chicken house is a very important consideration, and the health of the fowls, in a great measure, depends on it.

The breast of the Indian game is very much like that of the pheasant or the prairie chicken. The best of the meat lies on the breast.

## BREEDING FOR PERFECTION IN CORN QUITE PROFITABLE

If Your Seed Is Right, the Soil of Proper Character, the Crop Is Pretty Sure to Be of Value Far Above Ordinary Kind—Stable Manure Makes Best Kind of Fertilizer.

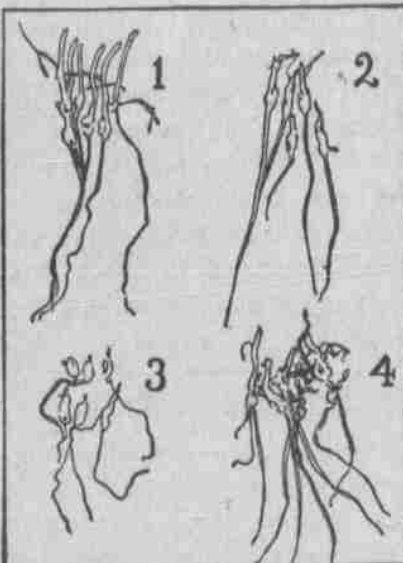
(By R. G. WEATHERSTONE.)  
Breeding corn today has for its object more than the development of an increase in yield. It has been clearly proven that by proper selection, varieties of corn can be secured which have a feeding value far above the ordinary kind grown. This means an increase in oil content and more especially an increase in protein.

It is possible and highly probable that in the future when corn will be more largely used for commercial purposes than at present, sales will be made on the basis of protein content, just as milk is sold today on the basis of fat content.

In fact, some of the large glucose factories have already adopted this plan. It is evidently unfair to the man who produces corn with 12 per cent. protein to receive no more than the man who markets an 8 per cent. article.

There has been much misunderstanding in regard to the importance of coloring matter in corn. Some farmers hold that yellow corn is the better feed, others maintaining the opposite. But in the light of recent investigations, these theories do not hold water.

Of course a yellow corn may be developed in feeding value above one of the white variety, but the difference



Showing how four hills of corn from the same lot showed, after being in the ground two weeks.

will not be because of any difference in color, but entirely protein and oil.

The farmer who starts in to breed his own seed should have the seed plot entirely separate from other corn. This should be placed in a corner of the field at least 40 rods from any other corn, and if it could be surrounded with grass instead of other grain, so much the better.

The preparation of the ground is, of course, very important, and it must be put in the very best possible condition. It means deep plowing, thorough manuring and fining before planting.

It has been found that very small increases come from the use of commercial fertilizers, particularly in the great corn growing sections, and nothing has been found better for this purpose than stable manure. In certain sections where lime must be used, it should be applied in connection with a liberal use of stable manure, but lime should never be used for corn except when it is positively known that the soil is in need of it.

All clay soil should be plowed in the fall, in order that the frosts of winter may break up the hard ground and make it more easily worked in the spring.

Early plowing in the spring tends to conserve the soil moisture, both by preventing evaporation and increasing the amount of rainfall held, but if the



Champion ear, Iowa corn show, raised by D. L. Pascal, sold for \$150. The ear was 10 1/2 inches long, 7 1/2 inches in circumference, at a point 3 inches from the butt, and 6 1/2 inches at a point 2 inches from the tip.

It weighed 19 ounces and carried 20 rows of kernels. It was raised on land that was in corn the fifth year. It is Reid's Yellow Dent and has been grown on the same farm for a number of years.

land is sod or cover crop, early plowing decreases the amount of organic matter, which would be incorporated by late plowing.

Late plowing also destroys the growth of many weeds, and is generally followed throughout the corn belt.

Subsoiling is not commonly practiced, and experiments show that it is profitable only in exceptional cases, particularly in the humid regions.

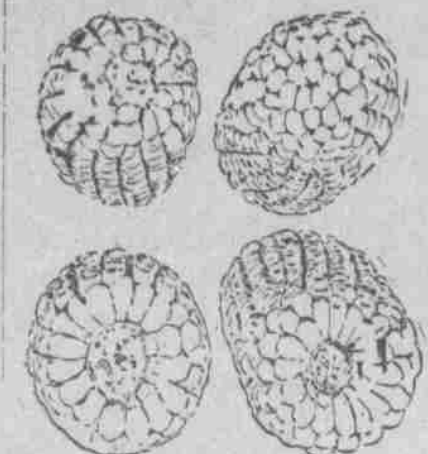
Fall plowed land should be thoroughly pulverized in the spring by plowing or disking and harrowing and rolling. While it is desirable to have a loose seed bed without clods, it does not need to be as fine as for wheat.

The best time for planting, of course, must be judged by the farmer himself, according to the season. It is useless to plant corn while the ground is cold and wet, as it will only lie ungerminated and too often rot. It is better practice to wait until the ground is warm, say about 60 degrees, at the depth of which the seed is to be planted.

In Illinois and Iowa, planting runs

from May 10 to June 10 at the latest. Indiana runs about a week earlier. In Kansas, the planting usually begins about the last week in April, but it is sometimes continued up to the last of May. In the southern states planting begins of course two or three weeks earlier.

Testing the seed is the most important step before planting.



A score card butt. A poor butt. A score card tip. A poor tip.

There is no one thing which will do so much to increase the yield as in being absolutely sure that the seed planted is sound and possesses the vitality to germinate a strong, healthy plant.

After the corn is tested, all mixed kernels should be removed, and then the tips and butts should be shelled off, in order to give uniform size to all the corn that goes into the planter. The planter should be tested and the proper place made for each grade. After the planter is tested and it is known what grades are needed, the seeds should be shelled, put into sacks and labeled. All this work should be done before the rush of spring work begins.

The grading of the seed is essential, because it enables the farmer to drop exactly the right number of kernels in each hill, by adjusting the plates of his planter to fit the different grades. In no other way can a perfect stand be obtained than by the most careful seed selection, testing and grading.

How often do we find in a single hill two or three different grades of corn? A good ear, perhaps, then a nubbin, and next a medium ear.

Ten feet from this hill we find another which has produced two or three



Position of ears on stalks. Ear on first stalk, right height and position. On second stalk, ear is not too low, but shank is too long. Stalk No. 3 carries the ear about six feet from the ground and ear is held in upright position, which makes it undesirable. The fourth stalk has several suckers.

perfect ears—butts and tips filled out, grains plump, well placed, ears hanging downward from the stalk, and all just as we would like to have it.

Why do not all hills in the same field, with soil and cultivation the same, produce similar results? Simply because we have neglected the work of selecting seed, germinating it and testing it.

The corn in a 100-acre field may produce on the average a very good crop of corn, but when this entire field could be made to produce an almost perfect crop simply by the exercise of good judgment and a few days spent in the selection and preparation of seed, then we can begin to realize what this kind of work means and can figure out its advantages in dollars and cents.

## Carob Beans.

It is principally used in the manufacture of cattle food, and large quantities are shipped from Cyprus, Crete, Italy and Portugal to the United Kingdom for this purpose. Italian manufacturers lay great stress on the quality of the bean, and practically all that is produced in the islands of Asia Minor is shipped to Italy. The product of this country is of superior quality and brings 15 to 20 per cent. more in price than that grown elsewhere. Owing to the strong, sweet smell of the bean, it is a difficult article to ship, as the article taints whatever other merchandise may be in the same vessel. Shipments are made in bulk.

## Dairy Demonstration Farms.

The University of Missouri is preparing to establish dairy demonstration farms in different parts of the state. A traveling instructor will teach farmers the use of the Babcock test, selection of animals and other dairy secrets.

## KILL OFF THE GRASSHOPPER

Insect Not Looked Upon With Horror and Fear It Was Comparatively Few Years Ago.

(By F. L. WASHBURN.)

Concerted action by government and state authorities has had the effect of changing the dreaded grasshopper from a menace which was national in scope, to an insect which while harmful enough in character, is no longer looked upon with the horror and fear it was comparatively few years ago.

There are many methods of combating these pests, but three methods are especially practical in most localities.

First plowing is considered the most efficient. Plow the eggpods under, burying some, and breaking open others so that moisture can get in, and exposing still others to the attacks of their enemies—birds, shrews, etc.

The second method is that of poisoned baits. Use either poisoned bran or the Criddle mixture. Poisoned bran can be used only in situations where stock and poultry are excluded. Neither should it be used where partridge and quail are likely to feed. It is merely bran poisoned with paris green or arsenic, two pounds of paris green to 100 of bran, moistened with water and a little molasses, so that the bran will just stick together when taken up with a spoon.



One of Nature's Hopper Dozers.

solved in a pail of water, the poison stirred in, and the whole mixed with the droppings in a half barrel.

Scatter it about the fields well, in quantity according to number of grasshoppers.

## Degeneration of Potatoes.

One reason why potatoes have degenerated in the past is that the potato growers of the United States have planted their culls and screenings under the erroneous impression that such methods in seed selection would produce as good results as any other.

## GARDEN and FARM NOTES

The good potato bug dies young.

Oats makes a most nutritious green food.

It pays to do right when you are plowing corn.

Oats, peas and barley are sometimes sown together.

Corn should not be planted until the ground is warm and dry.

Leave no long nails sticking up out of fallen rails or posts in the pasture.

Corn planted in mellow soil will germinate and make a strong, healthy growth.

Deep cultivation cuts off the side roots of the corn, and destroys a part of the crop.

Nearly every careful farmer has that variety of corn best suited for his soil and climate.

Two ounces of corrosive sublimate to 16 gallons of water makes a solution that kills potato scab.

No use to treat potatoes for scab if they are to be planted in ground in which scabby potatoes grew last year.

Plant the first row or two of space along the fence in the cornfields adjoining the pasture lands to potatoes. Use slaked lime for the striped squash or cucumber bug. An early vine makes a trap to catch the first ones.

Corn that yields well in one locality will often make an entire failure in another locality where conditions are different.

The keynote of success in corn growing is frequent shallow cultivations rather than occasional deep cultivations.

For corn, cabbage and tomatoes, plow down clover sod or clover and grass sod. Harrow and roll until fine and very mellow.

Land plaster is an excellent absorbent to use in the gutters and its use increases the value of the manure to a large extent.

Sweet clover is rapidly growing into popularity. It is one of the best crops that can be raised and it is adapted to a wide variety of soils.

## TREATMENT OF FLESH WOUND

Method of Value to Every Owner of Stock Is Given by Prof. G. H. Glover of Massachusetts.

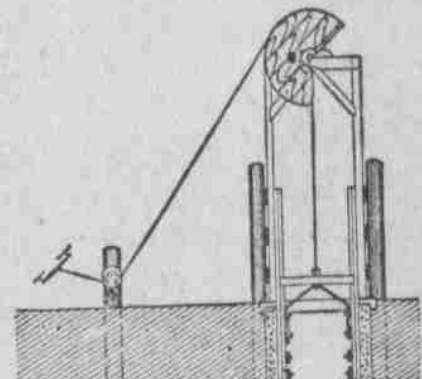
The following treatment of flesh wounds by Prof. G. H. Glover of Massachusetts is of value to every owner of stock, as he is a recognized authority. The ordinary wound will heal if not interfered with. This interference may be from germs, parasites meddling with the wound, on the part of man or the animal itself. The first thing to do, of course, would be to stop the hemorrhage. This can be accomplished by a tight bandage of clean, white muslin applied either over the wound or above it. A thread may be run under the artery by using a needle and tied. Do not use flour, dirt, cobwebs or anything of that sort on the wound; they are unnecessary and may produce dangerous infection. Having checked the bleeding remove the clots of blood and cut off the ragged edges of tissue with clean shears. A pan of antiseptic solution should be provided, and one of the best antiseptics on the farm is creolin. Add a teaspoonful of this to a pint of water that has been boiled and use it on the wound two or three times a day. Place the knife, shears, etc., in this solution and wash the hands before beginning to dress the wound.

See that there is good drainage from the wound and do not tie the wound up with covering of any kind. In about one week it may be well to change to dry dressing. In the meantime it will be well to get in communication with some skilled veterinarian who will advise you in the case from time to time. I do not mention sewing up the wound for the reason that in ragged cuts it is better not to do so. Remember that the principal thing is to get the wound healthy at the start and then it will heal with very little interference.

## OPERATE CAGE DIPPING VAT

rate Is Raised and Lowered by Use of Team of Horses—Illustration Explains Itself.

One of your readers desires information as to how to operate the cage in the dipping vat I recently described in your columns, writes L. W. Chase



Cage Dipping Vat.

of the University of Nebraska in the Breeder's Gazette.

The accompanying illustration will make it clear. The crate is raised and lowered by hitching a good horse or team to a rope which passes from the top of the drum down through an auxiliary pulley and from there to the clevis for the singletree or doubletree. The auxiliary pulley can be the regular floor pulley for the hay fork rope. After the rope passes through the pulley the team may travel in any convenient direction.

## Buy Feed or Sell Pigs?

A good many are asking what they are to feed their pigs, this season, with corn at 80 cents a bushel and middlings \$1.75 per cwt. and prospects of going still higher. For the man who has pigs and no feed, we think it would be about the most reasonable thing for him to sell his pigs to some man who has feed, and save himself the drudgery of carrying the food to them and the risk of losing good money in the process. It is the opinion of the writer that even with pork abnormally high, there is no money to be made just now by feeding hogs on a ration that must all be purchased at current prices.

## LIVE STOCK NOTES

Cooking food for animals seldom pays.

The stallion should show lots of masculinity.

One hundred acres will carry forty head of live stock.

Shear the sheep before their wool gets to be a burden.

If you haven't a hog house, prepare to build one next fall.

You can't be too particular in picking sires for your herds.

Many stallions are used too much to produce a large per cent of colts.

Horses, cattle, hogs and chickens are dirty if they are not handled in an intelligent manner.

The Ohio experiment station has found that rape is one of the very best forage crops for hogs.

Sell your wool on a rising market. Nine times out of ten you will miss it if you try to keep it for something better.

Pigs fed on dirty, musty floors, are apt to contract lung trouble through inhaling dust, chaff and other clogging material.

Dock every lamb, ewes when they are from eight to fourteen days old, and ram lambs from five to seven days after castration.

People with a prejudice against sheep claim they are dirty. This is quite true if they are handled in such a way that they cannot help it.